

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12753 061014Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-10 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
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R 061010Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2618

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DEPT PASS NOAA FOR MARTINEAU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TOCY, TGEN, UR, US, PLOS
SUBJECT: US-USSR WORLD OCEANS AGREEMENT: RENEWAL AND JCM
(06.00)

REF: STATE 131424

1. DURING MEETING AT SCST JUNE 2, AYKAZYAN AND METAL'-
NIKOV PRESSED SCICOUNS ON U.S. INTENTIONS REGARDING
RENEWAL AND JCM FOR OCEANS AGREEMENT, NOTING THAT DELAY
IS PLACING THE SOVIETS IN A "VERY DIFFICULT POSITION".
SCICOUNS RESPONDED THAT A LETTER IS EXPECTED SHORTLY
FROM NOAA ADMINISTRATOR FRANK TO ACADEMICIAN SIDORENKO
REPLYING TO THESE POINTS, AND TOOK OCCASION TO TRANSMIT
AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PRESS STATEMENT (REFTEL A),
UNDERLINING THE SECTION ON LOS-MSR. WHILE AVOIDING
MENTION OF SPECIFIC LINKAGES, SCICOUNS NOTED THAT SOVIET
POSITION ON LOS-MSR WEIGHS HEAVILY ON BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIP IN OCEANOGRAPHY.

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2. METAL'NIKOV WENT INTO LONG AND SELF-SERVING REPLAY OF
LOS-MSR ISS ISSUE, INSISTING THAT SOVIETS HAD "DONE THEIR
PART" AT GENEVA BY TWICE NOT OBJECTING TO RESTORATION
OF CASTENADA TEXT IN COMMITTEE III VOTES. HE ALSO SAID
THAT SOVIETS WOULD STRIVE DURING INTER-
SESSIONAL PERIOD TO COME UP WITH AN LOS COMPROMISE

PACKAGE AND HE STATED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD PROBABLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE US POSITION ON BILATERAL COOPERATION WHEN DECIDING ON THE SOVIET LOS-MSR POSITION.

3. COMMENT. DESPITE METAL'NIKOV'S PROTESTATIONS, THE RECORD APPEARS CLEAR THAT THE SOVIETS WERE NOT HELPFUL IN LOS-MSR AT GENEVA. THEIR POSITION MAY BE SOFTENING; HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THE US SHOULD NOT AT THIS POINT LOSE ITS MAJOR BARGAINING CHIP ON THIS ISSUE BY OFFERING RENEWAL OF THE OCEANS BILATERAL. WE BELIEVE THAT THE BEST ACTION WOULD BE TO PROFFER AN INTERIM EXTENSION OF THE BILATERAL UNTIL THE NEXT LOS SESSION, WITH DECISION ON THE JCM AND RENEWAL TO BE TAKEN IN THE LIGHT OF LOS DEVELOPMENTS. MATLOCK

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